



KNOWLEDGE HUB FOR EDUCATION AND LEARNING - Patna

Diksha Foundation

C1 Shanti Vihar Colony

Ambedkar Path, Jagdeo Path, Patna



Patna-800014

BASIC INFORMATION

Project Name: KHEL (Knowledge Hubs for Education and Learning)	Date Received:
Referred By:	

	Project Contact Information	Asha Contact
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Contact	Co-founder & Executive Director, Diksha Foundation	President, Asha Purdue Chapter
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- Registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860, Registration No: S/RS/SW/0019/2010.
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PROBLEM STATEMENT-

If we compare Bihar to most of India, then it performs poorly in most of the parameters, in any learning level. As per the **National Achievement Survey-2017**, the average learning level from class III to Std V is **56.32%** in Bihar, one of India's lowest learning levels. This problem is further compounded for children of daily wage earners like construction workers, vegetable sellers etc.

Both the parents go out to work during the day and children are left at home to fend for themselves often in the guardianship of the oldest sibling. Older girls bear the brunt of responsibilities of taking care of younger siblings in the household. The infrastructure of the slums is very poor and the houses are poorly ventilated and small with 5-6 people residing in less than 100 sq. ft. space. This reduces the chance for children to experience good growth and development creating a huge level of learning difference amongst students from other states and Bihar due to lack of quality of education. With a boom in the level of constructional development in the capital city, which on one hand is creating job opportunities for a few but at the same time forcing people to adjust with a bare minimum level of living standards. The **Human Development Index** of **Bihar** stands out last in the whole country which is **0.571**, and equals the **Republic of Congo**. Also, the city is overpopulated and there is hardly any public space which the children can access to engage in sports and other physical development activities.

We at Diksha Foundation believe that at the root of this pressing cause lies a crisis of holistic education in the education system. We have tried to incorporate education with the overall development of children for their holistic growth. This has enabled children at Diksha to pursue their dreams and careers. Over the years, we have helped children from marginalized communities to get a decent opportunity in order to explore themselves.

PROJECT GEOGRAPHY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND OF THE CHILDREN AND PARENTS-

In the 2011 census, the average literacy rate of Patna was 70.68%, wherein the literacy rate amongst males and females was 78.48% and 61.96% respectively. According to the 2018 ASER report, 78.1% of children between 6-14 years are enrolled in government schools in Bihar, while 16.9% are enrolled in private schools, 1.0 other (Madrasas) and 3.9% are out of school. Furthermore, the numeracy skills of students in Grade 3, i.e. their ability to recognize numbers from 1 to 100, is 26.9% in government schools; while reading skills to read 'words', stand at 15.2%. Based on the aforementioned data, an intervention towards improving the quality of education is necessary. Our focus has been to improve the literacy and numeracy skills of the learners mainly from government schools in Patna along with developing their intellectual and creative capacities.

Through this KHEL project we cater the Jagdeopath area, covering nearly 4-5 kms of radius. Some of the areas that we have our presence in for the past 12 years are as follows:

-"Anand Vihar Colony, Manokamna Mandir, Rukanpura, Vasant Vihar, Ashiyana Nagar, JagdeoPath, Rukanpura, Jyoti Puram, Mahima Mandir, Gandhi Nagar, Magistrate Colony."

STUDENT PROFILE: -

The students we cater to at Diksha's learning centre are:

- *Children who have dropped out of school.*
- *They generally belong to low-income groups and, most significantly, belong to BPL communities.*
- *They are generally from nearby communities/ low-income housing/ urban slums/informal settlements.*
- *The students have very low access to educational and developmental resources, their access is very limited/confined to mid-day meals and other government schemes.*
- *They are first-generation learners-The parents of these students are often illiterate and engaged in daily wage labor and similar activities.*

PROJECT OBJECTIVE-

We have divided our project objectives into 4 parameters-

Benefits-

- We ensure creating safe space for our children through the concept of 5th space.
- Provide transition support as the child moves through various stages of growth and development.

Social benefits-

- We provide a knowledge sharing platform for our children through having peer learning groups.
- We ensure community and civic engagement through programs like MLMF, SEE Learning and Jagrik

Academic outcomes-

- We will ensure 80 % of the enrolled students will continue their formal schooling.
- 75% of the children will be able to solve grade level mathematics & build their basic grade level knowledge on subject matters such as (English, Maths, and Hindi).

- Taking into account the modern technology and tools and focus on digital literacy, 80 % of the students will be able to operate computers for personal , research and learning purposes.

Emotional outcomes-

- We will ensure that 70% of the children are confident enough to make an inclusively informed decision.

PROJECT LOGIC AND STRATEGY-

We are committed to provide holistic education to the children from the underprivileged children through an after school supplementary education program called Knowledge Hub for Education and Learning.

KHEL is an after-school supplementary education program targeting children and youngsters from low-income communities in Bihar, India. Diksha Foundation started the KHEL centre in December 2010 in Patna; over the years we ran KHEL centres in Patna and Nalanda districts of Bihar and at Kusumpur Pahari, New Delhi. In the past 12 years, the KHEL project has reached out to over 1150 students through an intensive six days per week classroom program. Currently, two KHEL centres are operational, one in the Jagdeo path area of Patna and one in Bihta, we currently are running our Patna centre with a strength of 157 children

Our ultimate goal is to ensure that each and every child and young person has an opportunity for holistic education. Diksha Foundation, through its After School Learning Center model, exists to empower children and youth to fill the lack of holistic education, as we are committed towards our cause, we have developed short and long term strategies to achieve the goal.

Short Term

- Community visit and mobilization of children from the nearby identified community.
- Our students get access to inclusive learning spaces where they discover joy, freedom, and a fear-free learning environment while getting academic support in Hindi, English and Maths. There is a strong focus on life skills and the socio-emotional development of the learners through different activities and experiences.
- All the students coming to Diksha KHEL centre will complete their education till matriculation level.
- All the students attending the KHEL centre would avoid early marriage i.e., will marry only after attaining 21 years, the students and their families will receive counselling support and different training on decision-making and social-emotional learning.

Long Term

- In the KHEL model, there is a specific focus on leadership and individual development. Our alumni will be completing their education and contributing to their community by inspiring other children as a lifelong role model.
- The alumni of the KHEL centre will be actively engaged in running the centre. 50% of the staff strength in KHEL would be alumni of Diksha's program.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES THAT WE COVER-

1. **Literacy and Numeracy-** The following subjects (Hindi, English, Maths, Everyday Science, and Computer) are covered in order to provide academic support to the children through activity-based learning methodology. We follow the Bihar Board curriculum as the base; however, we also use CBSE and other resource materials as per requirement. We have collaborated with LIFI Foundation to develop our own curriculum for Hindi English and Maths.
2. **Computer-** In order to enhance IT skills, we at our KHEL centre provide basic computer operational skills through regular computer classes and through various learning portals such as KHAN Academy, and Sampark Smartshala educational Apps. Also, for the youth/adolescents, we have a six-month certificate course that targets a minimum of 75% girls enrolment as part of our DCA (Diploma in Computer Application) program.
3. **Life Skills-** In order to enhance the life skills amongst children we follow different curriculums/ means such as
 - **SEE (Social, Emotional and Ethical) Learning Curriculum:** In order to enhance the social, emotional, and ethical learning of students, we rolled out the SEE learning curriculum designed by Emory University and Dalai Lama Trust. The objective of the curriculum is to promote secular human values like compassion, kindness, trust, empathy, etc. Our core team has undergone formal training on CBCT (Compassion-Based Cognitive Training). We organize weekly sessions for the students.
 - **MLMF (My Life Mere Faisley):** We have adopted the MLMF curriculum designed by Pravah in order to enhance/develop decision-making skills in youth to take charge of their lives. Our participants go through 50 hours of curriculum that enables them about sensitive issues like SRHR, child marriage, etc.
4. **Civic Education:** Civic education, also known as citizenship education, helps students to understand the rights and responsibilities of citizens and the functioning of government in society. In order to enhance the same, we follow the following curriculums such as
 - **Jagrik- Be a Live-** The module aims to build young people's knowledge of how our constitution's rights and duties are being lived and report their experiences to the rest of the world. A 5-week experiential training that helps students discover their dreams and

values, find their responsibilities, and perform several duties/tasks to explore their inside-out youth leadership. We will mobilize 30 students from KHEL Patna center from age groups 12-15 years who will be part of this learning journey.

- **Bal Sansad-** Bal Sansad focuses on values and respect for children's opinions and capabilities. This innovative platform allows students to actively participate in the running of the center through a democratic process that is above gender, caste, and creed. This unique exercise helps root education in the local context and builds appropriate and relevant life skills. Every year we organize, Bal Sansad election and elect the Prime Minister and ministers of different departments such as sports minister, water and sanitation minister, cultural minister etc. Members of Bal Sansad meet every month and before any functions for review and planning. Currently Sonu Kumar is the Prime minister leading the Bal Sansad .
- **Open House Meeting-** Open house meetings provide the children with a common platform to raise their voice, concerns and ideas amongst each other in presence of teachers who moderate the sessions. It creates leadership attributes in the children and prepares them for the future. We have a suggestion and a complaint box created by the children. These boxes open in the open house meeting every month to discuss and take corrective measures led by the ministers of Bal Sansad.

Some of the suggestions and points discussed in the past financial year is as follows-

1. Each member can form a group of their ministries and add maximum 4-5 members in order to ensure smooth functioning and developing leadership qualities in other students as well.
2. Each child will be allocated one plant each and will be responsible for the plant.
3. Requirement of a permanent English teacher.
4. Arrangement of outdoor space and coach to teach sports and co-curricular activities like kabaddi, dance, music etc.

5. **Community Engagement:**

- **Parents Teacher Meeting-**Parent-teacher meetings are organized on a bi-monthly basis, where adequate time is given to the guardians to interface with the educators, and discuss the ongoing activities and how they can then be involved in the same.
- **Community and School Visit-** Our teachers/facilitators do fortnightly visits to the communities and school from where these students come, area visits are additionally completed by the group of teachers, also discussing any issue they are facing and how Diksha can be of any help to them. The communities that we cover are- (*Anand Vihar*

Colony, Manokamna Mandir, Rukanpura, Vasant Vihar, Ashiyana Nagar, JagdeoPath, Rukanpura, Jyoti Puram, Mahima Mandir, Gandhi Nagar, Magistrate Colony).

- **Annual Events/Celebrations-** Parents are welcome to every single capacity coordinated at Diksha, witness the skills/talents their kids possess and feel more attached to the organization and part of their child's overall development. Diksha has encountered guardians who are associated with the additional exercises and errands performed by their youngsters. For the FY 2023-2024 the events and celebrations that are planned are-
 1. Art and Craft Exhibition.
 2. Matrix Mela
 3. Health camp
 4. Annual Day of Diksha
 5. Festivals (Holi, Makar Sankranti, Diwali, Dussehra, Christmas, New Year, Eid etc.)
 6. Annual Sport event.
 7. Excursion tour for children, etc.

CURRENT PROJECT KEY FACTS-

Total Enrolment	157		
Supplementary Education	107	Full Time Teacher	4
Vocational Training (Computer)	25	Volunteers	5
Peer & Youth Group	25	Support Staff	6

STUDENTS WHO HAVE GRADUATED FROM DIKSHA'S PROGRAMS- (2010- 2022)

For the past 12 years through Patna Learning center we have been able to cater the given number of students and create impact as follows:

● Computer training diploma program (six months)	324
● Supplementary Education –	1500
● My Life, Mere Faisley Life Skills Module	100
● English Access Microscholarship Program	50
● Samvidan Live! Be a Jagrik	150

ACHIEVEMENTS-

- Our children won the President's Award, they participated in various events and functions, and made us proud to be able to help them in nurturing their dreams.
- Three students are now independent and also have joined Diksha as an employee.
- One student has started his own small business supporting his family, another student recently joined Magic Bus Foundation and added glory to Diksha.
- Two of the students got awarded in the 75th creative minds of tomorrow at 52nd International Film Festival held in Goa in 2021.
- Two of our students got shortlisted for the Community College Initiative Program.
- 50 students from our centre graduated from the English Access Microscholarship Program.
- One of our alumni started a small business by opening a grocery shop to support his family.
- We have reached out to over 6000 children and youth from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds through in-house centres and outreach programs in the last 5 years.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT PLAN-

Diksha strives towards providing opportunities to the students through various programs, workshops, and co-scholastic activities.

We work towards developing their social emotional learning, decision making abilities and inhibiting and enhancing 21st century skills in them through programs like- (My Life Mere Faisley, Jagrik, Social Emotional and Ethical Learning, Index for Inclusion and Access Program) and also by partnering with like minded organizations who are working in the area of youth development internship and exposure opportunities for the students.

- We run programs like the English Access Microscholarship Program with help of the US Embassy and RELO India where we help the students to make them global citizens and leaders of the future by working on their communication skills and cross-cultural learning and trivia.
- We organize counseling sessions with students where we focus on their learning and interest level and accordingly guide them for future development, and support young people to identify and choose subjects, in higher grades that are in line with their own skills and interests.
For example, recently we conducted a career counseling session for students of 10th and 12th, where they were briefed about the streams, how they can decide their area of interest through conducting a SWOT analysis, career test and survey with them.
- Furthermore, we share scholarship and higher education opportunities with them providing assistance during the application process should they choose to apply.

For example, recently through our Access Program few students got exposed to the fact that they can be part of community college initiative and other scholarship opportunities like SUSHI, YES fellowship etc. both from abroad and India.

- Also, we are providing our students with opportunities in terms of higher education, wherein we are in conversation with a supporter who is willing to support some of the students in their higher education and help them in the best possible way.
- Apart from the opportunities that we provide we have built a strong relationship and network with our children and the community, therefore, the students who pass out from the KHEL Program continue volunteering at our center.
- These students who graduate from Diksha are very much involved and interested in helping out the other students, they get involved in the learning center following the completion of their school/ colleges and provide the next batch with their knowledge and learning.

The students are generally involved in helping the teachers with subject matters, like (helping them prepare lesson plans, taking classes of Group A children, helping them in conducting assessments by volunteering for guarding purposes and volunteering during events and festivals etc.)

WAYFORWARD-

Over the span of the next five years, Diksha would like to continue empowering the community it works with and build a culture of volunteering and education. We envision better livelihood opportunities and entrepreneurial opportunities for our students.

1. BHARAT EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP- We will launch a Scholarship Program in order to extend our support to the students who are pursuing graduation and need financial assistance.
2. LEAD UR INDIA FELLOWSHIP- We have partnered with LIFI, an organization working towards strengthening existing ecosystems to bring quality education. Through this partnership we will work towards the leadership development of teachers. This is 2 years intense in-person and online training which is integrated towards curriculum development and developing lesson plans for teachers.
3. NEW BUILDING/SPACE- As the current learning center is about to be sold out, we are planning to shift the center to a new space, with the pre- requirements of the centre. We are currently exploring places and most probably will shift to a new space by next 4-5 months.

KEY PEOPLE OF THE ORGANIZATION AND THEIR BACKGROUND

Gautam Gauri: - Co-founder and Executive Director

After working for three and a half years in the IT sector, Gautam decided to pursue his dream of making education accessible for underprivileged communities in Bihar. With his wide professional and academic experience of eleven years, he has made a significant contribution to the education sector in Bihar. He holds an MPhil in Education from the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom. He was awarded the prestigious Commonwealth Scholarship for the same. He did his MBA in International Business from the Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad, India. His professional interests include value-based education and technology in classrooms. As a co-founder of Diksha, Gautam has been actively involved in the operations of Diksha from day one and he looks into fundraising and overall management of Diksha. His personal interests include swimming, trekking, and meditation.

Shibasis Sahu: - Project Manager

Shibasis is currently working as the core team lead and Program Manager at Diksha Foundation. He majorly develops and manages multiple educational programs at Diksha along with playing a vital role in stakeholder management. He is currently representing as an entrepreneur at the TFlx incubation program. A social entrepreneur by heart with experience of over 9 years across thematic areas such as education, child rights, youth development across agencies in India like ASORD, NABCONS, and SAMPARK FOUNDATION. He is dreaming about making a difference in the world with social inclusion. He is a lifelong learner with a bachelor of technology in electronics and communication engineering.

Tanya Pandey: -Communication and Fundraising Coordinator

Tanya joined Diksha in 2019, she holds a Master's degree in development studies from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati. She has 4 years of experience working in the area of inclusive education and community development. She has interned with notable NGOs including Koshish, Praxis and Pratham. For the last 3.5 years, she worked with Diksha on multiple projects as a project coordinator. She is currently looking towards the communication and fundraising part of the organization. She believes in inclusive education and trusts that via inclusive education one can play an important role in a child's overall holistic education and development.

CONTACT INFORMATION OF TWO INDIVIDUALS FROM YOUR COMMUNITY (NOT RELATED TO THE SCHOOL) WHO CAN DESCRIBE THE IMPACT OF YOUR PROGRAM-

Sl.no	1	2
Name	Abhinav Kant	Rohit Singh
Address	Abhinav Kant Flat 11, Jagat Narayani Apartments Bank Road, Patna 800001	Vasudev Sadan, Old Arvind Mahila College Road, Adjacent to Royal Nursery, Kadam Kuan, Patna 800003
Phone No.	+91 7004336275	+91 9955995595

CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE PERSON FROM THE GROUP WHO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE REPORTS-

Name	Gautam Gauri
Addresses	Diksha Foundation C1, Shanti Vihar Colony Ambedkar Path, Patna -800014
Phone	9204056412
E-mail	gautamgauri@dikshafoundation.org

FINANCIAL DETAILS-

Source of fund	Activities	Specific activities
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Asha Education for	Salaries, Rent, Honorarium, Utilities, books, and stationery	Centre Co-coordinator cum Instructor Salary Part-Time Cleaner Computer Instructor Salary Centre Rent Internet Electricity Charges Books & Stationery Miscellaneous Project Management Peer Educator Honorarium Library Books, Computer Peripherals, Musical Instruments, Learning Games Teacher training
Individual donation through crowdfunding platform	Salaries, Honorarium, Utilities, Books, and stationery, Audit and Legal	Instructor Salary Books and Stationery Part of admin salaries Audit and Legal

PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH DETAILS OF YOUR PROJECTED BUDGET FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS-

Year(s)	Total costs (INR)
2023-24	2351960
2024-25	2585000
2025-26	2843500
Total	7780460

WHAT AMOUNT ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM ASHA AND FOR WHAT SPECIFIC PURPOSE?

Following funds are requested from ASHA per annum for the next year.
(April-2023 to March 2024)

Budget Breakup-KHEL Patna					
Sl No	Line-Item Name	Unit	Qty	Unit Cost	Total Budget
	Program Cost:				
1	Human Resource				
1.1	Computer Teacher cum Head Teacher	1	12	21780	261360
1.2	Maths Teacher	1	12	17600	211200
1.3	Hindi Teacher	1	12	10000	120000
1.4	English Teacher	1	12	20000	240000
1.5	Primary Teacher	1	12	10000	120000
1.6	Peer Educator Honorarium	1	12	3000	36000
1.7	Senior Facilitator and Monitoring & Evaluation Person (Part time)	1	12	12000	144000
1.8	Reporting and Communication Person-(Part-time)	1	12	5000	60000
Total					988560
2	Activities				
2.1	Internet and Moblie for the learning center	1	12	2200	26400
2.2	Classroom Venue	1	12	25000	300000
2.3	Books & Stationery	1	12	6000	72000
2.4	Students kit	150	12	70	126000
2.5	Teacher's Training	4	1	20000	80000
2.6	Miscellaneous- Facilities and maintenance of the learning space	1	12	10000	120000
2.7	Celebrations and Students Activities	1	6	8000	48000
2.8	Travel for team and students	1	12	3000	36000
2.9	Curriculum Development and Teachers Training	1	6	35000	210000

Budget Breakup-KHEL Patna					
Total					1018400
Total Program cost					2006960
	Administrative Cost:				
3	Management Cost				
3.1	Finance and Admin	1	12	7000	84000
3.2	Program Director- Part time	1	12	10000	120000
Total					204000
4	Support Cost				
4.1	Part Time Peon	1	12	7500	90000
4.2	Part Time Janitor	1	12	3000	36000
Total					126000
5	Other Cost				
5.1	Audit & Legal Cost	1	1	15000	15000
Total					15000
Total Admin Cost					345000
Grand Total					2351960